

Food Stamp Program

The Food Stamp Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service, is the largest food assistance program in the country, reaching more poor individuals over the course of a year than any other public assistance program. Unlike many other public assistance programs, the Food Stamp Program has few categorical requirements for eligibility, such as the presence of children, elderly or disabled individuals in a household. As a result, the program offers assistance to a large and diverse population of needy persons, many of whom are not eligible for other forms of assistance.

The Food Stamp Program was designed primarily to increase the food purchasing power of eligible low-income households to the point where they can buy a nutritionally adequate low-cost diet. Participating households are expected to be able to devote 30 percent of their counted monthly cash income (after adjusting for various deductions) to food purchases. Food stamp benefits then make up the difference between the household's expected contribution to its food costs and an amount judged to be sufficient to buy an adequate low-cost diet. This amount, the maximum food stamp benefit level, is derived from USDA's lowest-cost food plan, the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP).

The Federal government is responsible for virtually all of the rules that govern the program, and, with limited variations, these rules are nationally uniform, as are the benefit levels. Nonetheless, States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands, through their local welfare offices, have primary responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the program. They determine eligibility, calculate benefits, and issue food stamp allotments. The Food Stamp Act provides 100 percent federal funding of food stamp benefits. States and other jurisdictions have responsibility for about half the cost of state and local food stamp agency administration.

In addition to the regular Food Stamp Program, the Food Stamp Act authorizes alternative programs in Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. The largest of these, the Nutrition Assistance Program in Puerto Rico, had an average of 1.2 million participants in 1999, funded under a Federal block grant of \$1.2 billion. Unless noted otherwise, the food stamp caseload and expenditure data in this Appendix include costs for the Nutrition Assistance Program in Puerto Rico. Prior to 1982, the regular Food Stamp Program operated in Puerto Rico, under modified eligibility and benefit rules.

The Food Stamp Program has financial, employment/training-related and "categorical" tests for eligibility. The basic food stamp beneficiary unit is the "household." Generally, individuals living together constitute a single food stamp household if they customarily purchase food and prepare meals together. Members of the same household must apply together, and their income, expenses, and assets normally are aggregated in determining food stamp eligibility and benefits. Except for households composed entirely of TANF, SSI, or general assistance recipients (who generally are automatically eligible for food stamps), monthly cash income is the primary food stamp eligibility determinant. Unless exempt, adult applicants for food stamps must register for work, typically with the welfare agency or a state employment service office. To maintain eligibility, they must accept a suitable job if offered one and fulfill any work, job search, or training requirements established by the administering welfare agencies.

Food stamp benefits are a function of a household's size, its net monthly income, its assets, and maximum monthly benefit levels. Allotments are not taxable and food stamp purchases may not be charged sales taxes. Receipt of food stamps does not affect eligibility for or benefits provided by other welfare programs, although some programs use food stamp participation as a "trigger" for eligibility and others take into account the general availability of food stamps in deciding what level of benefits to provide.

Recent Legislative and Regulatory Changes.

Title IV and Subtitle A of title VIII of the PRWORA contains major and extensive revisions to the Food Stamp Program, including strong work requirements on able-bodied adults without dependents, restricted benefits for legal immigrants, and a reduction in maximum benefits. These three provisions, and subsequent amendments, are discussed below; their impact on program participation and expenditures begins to appear in food stamp administrative data for 1997, with the fuller impact shown in data for 1998.

First, a new work requirement was added for able-bodied adult food stamp recipients without dependents (ABAWDs). Unless exempt, ABAWDs between the ages of 18 and 50 are not eligible for benefits for more than 3 months in every 36-month period unless they are (1) working at least 20 hours a week; (2) participating in and complying with a work program for at least 20 hours a week; or (3) participating in and complying with a workfare program. Under the original legislation, the Department of Agriculture was authorized to waive application of the work requirement to any group of individuals at the request of the state agency, if a determination is made that the area where they reside has an unemployment rate over 10 percent or does not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide them employment. The provision was further moderated under the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-33), which allowed states to exempt up to 15 percent of the ABAWD caseload (beyond those subject to waivers) and which increased funds for the Food Stamp employment and training program for the creation of job slots for able-bodied adults subject to time limits.

Separately, title IV of PRWORA made significant changes in the eligibility of noncitizens for Food Stamp benefits. As first enacted, most qualified aliens (including legal immigrants -- illegal aliens are already ineligible) were barred from Food Stamps until citizenship. Subsequently, the Agriculture Research, Extension and Education Reform Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-185) restored food stamp eligibility to certain groups of qualified aliens who were legally residing in the United States before passage of PRWORA (August 22, 1996). Specifically, the ban on food stamp eligibility was lifted for children, the disabled and people who were 65 on August 22, 1996.

Finally, the 1996 legislation restrained growth in future program expenditures by making changes in the benefit structure for eligible participants, including a reduction in the maximum food stamp allotment. Other provisions of the 1996 act disqualified from eligibility those convicted of drug-related felonies and gave states the option to disqualify individuals, both custodial and noncustodial parents, from food stamps when they do not cooperate with child support agencies or are in arrears in their child support.

Recent regulatory and legislative changes have been made to increase access to food stamps among working poor families. Regulatory changes announced in July 1999 and expanded in November 2000 allow states to reduce reporting requirements and make it easier for working families to report income changes on a semi-annual basis. Under the November 2000 regulations, states also have the option of providing a three-month transitional food stamp benefit to most families leaving TANF. In addition, the Agriculture Appropriations Bill for 2001 (P.L. 106-387) provides states with the option of liberalizing the treatment of vehicle assets to align with the states' TANF rules on vehicle eligibility. These changes were intended to address concerns that some of the decline in food stamp caseloads may be leaving poor families without nutritional assistance as they make the transition from welfare dependence to full self-sufficiency.

Food Stamp Program Data.

The following six tables and accompanying figure provide information about the Food Stamp Program, including information about the Nutrition Assistance Program in Puerto Rico:

- Tables FSP 1-2 and Figure FSP 1 present national caseload and expenditure trend data on the Food Stamp program, as discussed below;
- Table FSP 3 presents some demographic characteristics of the food stamp caseload; and
- Tables FSP 4-6 present some state-by-state trend data on the Food Stamp program through fiscal year 1999.

Food Stamp Caseload Trends (Tables FSP 1-2). Average monthly food stamp participation (including participants in Puerto Rico's block grant) has continued to fall from its peak of 28.9 million in an average month in 1994 to an average of 19.3 million persons in 1999. Both in absolute numbers and as a percentage of the population, food stamp reciprocity is lower than at any point in the past twenty years. See also Table IND 3b and Table IND 4b in Chapter II for further data on the recent decline in food stamp reciprocity and participation rates.

Considerable research has demonstrated that the Food Stamp program is responsive to economic changes, with participation increasing in times of economic downturns and decreasing in times of economic growth (see Figure FSP 1). Economic conditions alone did not explain the caseload growth in the late 1980s and early 1990s, however. A Congressionally mandated study in 1990 concluded that a variety of factors contributed to this caseload growth, including expansions in Medicaid eligibility, and changes in immigration laws, particularly the legalization of undocumented aliens, as well as a rise in unemployment (McConnell, 1991). Longer spells of participation also contributed to the caseload increase, according to an analysis of longitudinal data from the Survey on Income and Program Participation. (Gleason, 1998).

Economic conditions were a significant factor in explaining the drop in food stamp caseload since 1994, according to an Economic Research Service review of recent research (ERS, 2000).

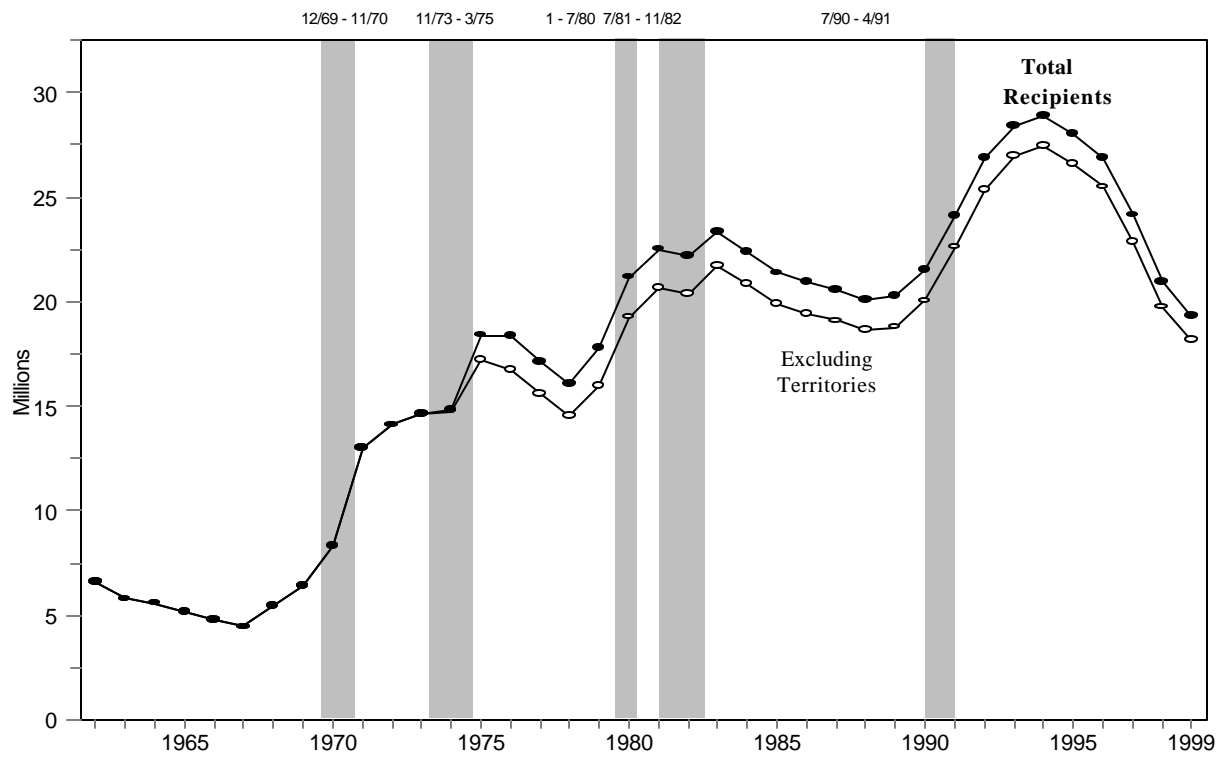
Several econometric models suggest that economic variables explain between 25 and 44 percent of the decline in caseload. The full effect of the economy may be even higher, to the extent that some of the unexplained variation in the models reflects local economic conditions not captured in state-level economic variables.

Policy changes, most notably the enactment of the Personal Responsibility Act of 1996, have also contributed to the recent decline in food stamp caseload. The most direct impact was the elimination of eligibility for most legal immigrants and for many childless adults aged 18-50. Participation for these two groups fell sharply between 1994 and 1998 (Genser, 1999). In addition, changes in TANF policy may have affected food stamp participation, although these effects are less certain. Many studies of families leaving TANF cash assistance have found that many families leave the Food Stamp Program as well, despite appearing eligible for food stamp benefits. Econometric studies of the effects of specific changes in TANF policy, however, have found that only a small share of the decline in state food stamp caseloads was associated with waivers to AFDC policies. Increased stigma about welfare use and unintentional diversion from the Food Stamp Program may be additional factors affecting food stamp participation. Finally, a study of trends in Food Stamp Program Participation rates (USDA, 2000) found that the program is reaching a smaller percentage of eligible individuals in 1998 than it did during the three previous years.

Food Stamp Expenditures. Total program costs, shown in Table FSP 2, have declined in recent years, along with the decline in caseloads. In fiscal year 1999, total program costs (including Puerto Rico) were \$19 billion, reaching their lowest levels since 1980, after adjusting for inflation. (Average monthly participation in fiscal year 1999 was 21.0 million). Average monthly benefits per person have also declined in recent years after adjusting for inflation. Benefits were \$72 per person in fiscal year 1999, considerably lower than the \$82 per person benefit (in constant dollars) paid in 1992, but higher than the \$68 per person paid in 1987.

Food Stamp Household Characteristics. As shown in FSP 3, the proportion of food stamp households with earnings has increased, from about 20 percent for most of the 1980s and early 1990s, to 26 percent in 1998 and 27 percent in 1999. At the same time, the proportion of households with income from AFDC/TANF has declined, from 42 percent in 1982 to 27 percent in 1999, following the dramatic decline in AFDC/TANF caseloads. Over half of all food stamp households have children, although the proportion has declined somewhat from over 60 percent in most of the 1980s and 1990s to 56 percent in 1999. The vast majority (89 percent) of households have incomes below the federal poverty guidelines.

Figure FSP 1. Persons Receiving Food Stamps



Note: Shaded areas are periods of recession.

Sources: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, National Data Bank.

Table FSP 1. Trends in Food Stamp Caseloads, Selected Years 1962 – 1999

Fiscal Year	Food Stamp Participants ¹			Participants as a Percent of:			Child Participants As a Percent of:	
	Including Territories ² (in thousands)	Excluding Territories (in thousands)	Children Excl'd Terr. (in thousands)	Total Population ³	All Poor Persons ³	Pre-transfer Poverty Population ⁴	Total Child Population ³	Children in Poverty ³
1962	6,554	6,554	NA	3.5	17.0	NA	NA	NA
1965	5,166	5,166	NA	2.7	15.5	NA	NA	NA
1970	8,277	8,277	NA	4.1	32.6	NA	NA	NA
1971	13,042	13,042	NA	6.3	51.0	NA	NA	NA
1972	14,102	14,102	NA	6.7	57.7	NA	NA	NA
1973	14,641	14,641	NA	6.9	63.7	NA	NA	NA
1974	14,784	14,765	NA	6.9	63.2	NA	NA	NA
1975 ⁵	18,308	17,217	NA	8.0	66.2	NA	NA	NA
1976	18,240	16,733	9,126	7.7	66.7	NA	13.8	88.8
1977	17,014	15,579	NA	7.1	62.7	NA	NA	NA
1978	15,988	14,503	NA	6.5	58.9	NA	NA	NA
1979 ⁶	17,682	15,976	NA	7.1	60.9	57.1	NA	NA
1980	21,082	19,253	9,493	8.5	65.5	60.7	15.5	85.6
1981	22,430	20,654	9,674	9.0	64.6	60.8	15.5	78.4
1982	22,055	20,392	9,545	8.8	59.0	56.3	15.3	70.3
1983	23,195	21,667	10,783	9.3	61.1	58.5	17.4	78.4
1984	22,384	20,796	10,372	8.8	61.7	58.5	16.8	78.2
1985	21,379	19,847	9,824	8.3	60.0	56.6	15.8	76.1
1986	20,909	19,381	9,846	8.1	59.9	56.2	15.7	76.5
1987	20,583	19,072	9,765	7.9	59.2	55.6	15.5	75.4
1988	20,095	18,613	9,363	7.6	58.6	55.2	14.8	75.1
1989	20,266	18,778	9,429	7.6	59.6	55.6	14.9	74.9
1990	21,547	20,038	10,127	8.0	59.7	55.7	15.8	75.4
1991	24,115	22,599	11,952	9.0	63.3	59.3	18.4	83.3
1992	26,886	25,369	13,349	9.9	66.7	64.0	20.2	87.3
1993	28,422	26,952	14,196	10.5	68.6	63.8	21.2	90.3
1994	28,879	27,434	14,391	10.5	72.2	66.9	21.2	94.1
1995	27,989	26,579	13,860	10.1	73.0	67.6	20.2	94.5
1996	26,872	25,494	13,189	9.6	69.9	64.7	19.1	91.2
1997	24,148	22,820	11,847	8.5	64.3	60.0	17.0	83.9
1998	20,970	19,746	10,524	7.3	57.4	57.9	15.1	78.1
1999	19,322	18,149	9,354	6.7	56.4	52.6	13.3	77.2

¹ Total participants includes all participating States, the District of Columbia, and the territories (including Puerto Rico). The number of child participants includes only the participating States and D.C. (the territories are not included). From 1962 to 1983 the number of participants includes the Family Food Assistance Program (FFAP) which was largely replaced by the Food Stamp program in 1975. The FFAP participants (as of December) for the seven years shown during the period from 1962 to 1974 were respectively: 6,411; 4,742; 3,977; 3,642; 3,002; 2,441; and 1,406 (all in thousands). From 1975 to 1983 the number of FFAP participants averaged only 88 thousand. The monthly average number of participants for 1970-76 is computed as an average from October of the prior calendar year to September, the span of the fiscal year since 1977.

² Participation figures in column 1 from 1982 on include enrollment in Puerto Rico's Nutrition Assistance Program (averaging 1.2 to 1.5 million persons a month under the nutrition assistance grant and higher figures in earlier years under Food Stamps) as shown in Table FSP 5.

³ Includes all participating States and the District of Columbia only--the territories are excluded from both numerator and denominator. Population numbers used as denominators are the resident population—see *Current Population Reports*, Series P25-1106. For the persons living in poverty used as denominators, see *Current Population Reports*, Series P60-210.

⁴ The pretransfer poverty population used as denominator is the number of all persons in families or living alone whose income (cash income plus social insurance plus Social Security but before taxes and meanstested transfers) falls below the appropriate poverty threshold. See Appendix J, Table 20, 1992 *Green Book*; data for subsequent years are unpublished Congressional Budget Office tabulations.

⁵ The first fiscal year in which food stamps were available nationwide.

⁶ The fiscal year in which the food stamp purchase requirement was eliminated, on a phased in basis.

Sources: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, National Data Bank, the 1996 *Green Book*, and U.S. Bureau of the Census, "Poverty in the United States: 1999," *Current Population Reports*, Series P60-210 and earlier years.

Table FSP 2. Trends in Food Stamp Expenditures, Selected Years 1975 – 1999

Fiscal Year	Total Federal Cost		Benefits ² (Federal) [In millions]	Administration ¹		Total Cost [In millions]	Average Monthly Benefit per Person	
	Current Dollars	1999 Dollars ³		Federal	State & Local		Current Dollars	1999 Dollars ³
	[In millions]	[In millions]		[In millions]	[In millions]			
1975.....	\$5,037	\$15,379	\$4,798	\$238	\$180	\$5,217	\$19.60	\$59.80
1976.....	5,641	16,124	5,276	365	275	5,934	23.90	68.30
1977.....	5,463	14,536	5,061	402	300	5,775	24.00	63.90
1978.....	5,546	13,844	5,112	434	325	5,883	25.70	64.20
1979 ⁴	6,965	15,988	6,450	515	388	7,388	30.10	69.10
1980.....	9,224	19,034	8,721	503	375	9,633	34.30	70.80
1981.....	11,308	21,218	10,630	678	504	11,906	39.50	74.10
1982.....	11,117	19,491	10,408	709	557	11,697	39.20	68.70
1983.....	12,708	21,309	11,930	778	612	13,343	43.10	72.30
1984.....	12,446	20,018	11,475	971 ⁵	805	13,251	42.90	69.00
1985.....	12,573	19,520	11,530	1,043	871	13,444	45.10	70.00
1986.....	12,510	18,943	11,397	1,113	935	13,445	45.60	69.00
1987.....	12,512	18,423	11,317	1,195	996	13,508	45.90	67.60
1988.....	13,281	18,787	11,991	1,290	1,080	14,361	49.90	70.60
1989.....	13,904	18,769	12,572	1,332	1,101	15,005	51.90	70.10
1990.....	16,503	21,221	15,081	1,422	1,174	17,677	59.00	75.90
1991.....	19,790	24,225	18,274	1,516	1,247	21,037	63.90	78.20
1992.....	23,535	27,961	21,879	1,656	1,375	24,910	68.70	81.60
1993.....	24,733	28,525	23,017	1,716	1,572	26,305	68.00	78.40
1994.....	25,587	28,748	23,798	1,789	1,643	27,230	69.10	77.60
1995.....	25,776	28,177	23,859	1,917	1,748	27,524	71.40	78.00
1996.....	25,527	27,152	23,543	1,984	1,842	27,369	73.40	78.10
1997.....	22,750	23,562	20,692	2,058	1,904	24,654	71.40	73.90
1998.....	20,224	20,610	18,055	2,169	1,988	22,212	71.30	72.70
1999.....	19,045	19,045	16,945	2,100	1,874	22,919	72.40	72.40

¹ Amounts include the Federal share of state administrative and employment and training costs (including administrative costs of Puerto Rico's block grant) and certain direct Federal administrative costs. They do not generally include approximately \$60 million in food-stamp related federal administrative costs budgeted under a separate appropriation account (although estimates prior to 1989 do include estimates of food stamp related Federal administrative expenses paid out of other Agriculture Department accounts). State and local costs are estimated based on the known Federal shares and represent an estimate of all administrative expenses of participating states (including Puerto Rico).

² Benefit costs include the Food Stamp Program and Puerto Rico's nutritional assistance program and are based on unpublished data from the USDA, Food and Nutrition Service, National Data Bank (see Table FSP 4).

³ Constant dollar adjustments to 1999 level were made using a CPI-U-X1 fiscal year average price index.

⁴ The fiscal year in which the food stamp purchase requirement was eliminated, on a phased in basis.

⁵ Beginning 1984 USDA took over from DHHS the administrative cost of certifying public assistance households for food stamps.

Note: Total federal cost includes food stamps in Puerto Rico (1975-1981) and funding for Puerto Rico's nutrition assistance grant (1982-present). Average benefit figures, however, do not reflect the lower benefits in Puerto Rico under either the food stamp program from 1975 to 1981 or its nutrition assistance program since 1982.

Source: USDA, Food and Nutrition Service unpublished data from the National Data Bank; and the 2000 *Green Book*.

Table FSP 3. Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, 1980 - 1999

	[In percent]									
	Year ¹									
	1980	1984	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996	1997	1998	1999
With Gross Monthly Income:										
Below the Federal Poverty Levels.....	87	93	92	92	92	90	91	91	90	89
Between the Poverty Levels and 130 Percent of the Poverty Levels.....	10	6	8	8	8	9	8	8	9	10
Above 130 Percent of Poverty.....	2	1	*	*	*	1	1	1	1	1
With Earnings.....	19	19	20	19	21	21	23	24	26	27
With Public Assistance Income ²	65	71	72	73	66	69	67	67	65	63
With AFDC/TANF Income.....	NA	42	42	43	40	38	37	35	31	27
With SSI Income.....	18	18	20	19	19	23	24	26	28	30
With Children.....	60	61	61	61	62	61	60	58	58	56
And Female Heads of Household.....	NA	47	50	51	51	51	50	49	47	46
With No Spouse Present	NA	NA	39	37	44	43	43	42	41	40
With Elderly Members ³	23	22	19	18	15	16	16	18	18	20
With Elderly Female Heads of Household ³	NA	16	14	11	9	11	NA	NA	NA	NA
Average Household Size.....	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4

¹ Data were gathered in August in the years 1980-84 and during the summer in the years from 1986 to 1994. Reports from 1995 to the present are based on fiscal year averages.

² Public assistance income includes AFDC, SSI, and general assistance.

³ Elderly members and heads of household include those of age 60 or older.

* Less than 0.5 percent.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis, Nutrition, and Evaluation, *Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Fiscal Year 1999* and earlier years.

Table FSP 4. Value of Food Stamps Issued by State, Selected Fiscal Years 1975 – 1999

[Millions of dollars]

	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	1997	1998	1999
Alabama	\$108	\$246	\$318	\$328	\$441	\$393	\$357	\$346
Arizona	7	27	25	25	50	52	50	49
Arkansas	45	97	121	239	414	316	253	233
California	78	122	126	155	212	214	206	210
Colorado	374	530	639	968	2,473	2,372	2,020	1,796
Connecticut	48	71	94	156	217	182	157	145
Delaware	38	59	62	72	169	170	161	150
Dist. of Columbia	8	21	22	25	47	41	34	32
Florida	32	41	40	43	92	91	85	82
Georgia	236	421	368	609	1,307	1,061	845	813
Guam	144	264	290	382	700	597	538	514
Hawaii	3	15	18	15	24	27	34	31
Idaho	26	60	93	81	177	189	178	180
Illinois	12	29	36	40	59	53	47	45
Indiana	259	394	713	835	1,056	933	844	767
Iowa	64	154	242	226	382	293	263	255
Kansas	29	54	107	109	142	125	109	103
Kentucky	13	38	64	96	144	112	83	80
Louisiana	138	211	332	334	413	372	345	337
Maine	149	243	365	549	629	512	467	463
Maryland	36	60	62	63	112	103	100	89
Massachusetts	79	140	171	203	365	319	282	237
Michigan	104	171	173	207	315	262	222	205
Minnesota	132	263	541	663	806	678	588	515
Mississippi	43	62	105	165	240	193	181	172
Missouri	115	199	264	352	383	313	254	232
Montana	85	142	212	312	488	401	345	348
Nebraska	11	18	31	41	57	55	52	52
Nevada	12	25	44	59	77	72	68	66
New Hampshire	11	15	22	41	91	74	63	56
New Jersey	14	22	15	20	44	35	30	31
New Mexico	136	226	260	289	506	449	384	346
New York	49	81	88	117	196	168	144	144
North Carolina	233	726	938	1,086	2,065	1,778	1,505	1,464
North Dakota	139	234	237	282	495	478	421	435
Ohio	5	9	16	25	32	29	25	26
Oklahoma	268	382	697	861	1,017	744	613	535
Oregon	40	73	134	186	315	256	231	221
Pennsylvania	58	80	142	168	254	216	198	190
Puerto Rico	190	373	547	661	1,006	865	764	704
Rhode Island	366	828	786	894	1,095	1,142	1,166	1,190
South Carolina	19	31	35	42	82	70	57	61
South Dakota	126	181	194	240	297	281	264	251
Tennessee	8	18	26	35	40	39	37	37
Texas	126	282	280	372	554	475	437	425
Utah	319	514	701	1,429	2,246	1,765	1,425	1,255
Vermont	13	22	40	71	90	78	75	73
Virgin Islands	10	18	20	22	46	40	34	34
Virginia	9	19	23	18	28	25	22	22
Washington	70	158	189	247	450	379	307	282
West Virginia	71	90	140	229	417	386	308	260
Wisconsin	57	87	159	192	253	239	224	208
Wyoming	33	68	148	180	220	158	130	124
United States	3	6	15	21	28	23	21	19
	\$4,798	\$8,721	\$11,530	\$15,081	\$23,859	\$20,692	\$18,055	\$16,945

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, unpublished data from the Food Stamp National Data Bank.

Table FSP 5. Average Number of Food Stamp Recipients by State, Selected Fiscal Years

1977 – 1999

[In thousands]

	1977	1981	1985	1989	1992	1994	1996	1999	Percent Change	
									1989-94	1994-99
Alabama	316	605	588	436	550	545	509	405	25	-26
Alaska	11	32	22	26	38	46	46	41	76	-10
Arizona	140	210	206	264	457	512	427	257	94	-50
Arkansas	213	305	253	227	277	283	274	253	24	-10
California	1,345	1,605	1,615	1,776	2,558	3,155	3,143	2,027	78	-36
Colorado	147	175	170	211	260	268	244	173	27	-35
Connecticut	178	175	145	114	202	223	223	178	96	-20
Delaware	26	56	40	30	51	59	58	39	99	-35
Dist. of Columbia	98	101	72	58	82	91	93	84	55	-7
Florida	728	957	630	668	1,404	1,474	1,371	933	121	-37
Georgia	459	654	567	485	754	830	793	617	71	-26
Guam	22	25	20	13	20	15	18	20	21	30
Hawaii	108	104	99	78	94	115	130	125	47	9
Idaho	33	64	59	61	72	82	80	57	34	-30
Illinois	922	984	1,110	990	1,156	1,189	1,105	820	20	-31
Indiana	196	405	406	285	448	518	390	298	82	-42
Iowa	108	163	203	168	192	196	177	129	16	-34
Kansas	62	108	119	128	175	192	172	115	50	-40
Kentucky	394	519	560	447	529	522	486	396	17	-24
Louisiana	425	574	644	725	779	756	670	516	4	-32
Maine	101	140	114	84	133	136	131	109	61	-20
Maryland	255	346	287	249	342	390	375	264	57	-32
Massachusetts	579	437	337	314	429	442	374	261	40	-41
Michigan	635	942	985	874	994	1,031	935	683	18	-34
Minnesota	158	202	228	245	309	318	295	208	30	-35
Mississippi	333	514	495	493	536	511	457	288	4	-44
Missouri	221	378	362	404	549	593	554	408	47	-31
Montana	27	47	58	56	66	71	71	61	28	-15
Nebraska	40	75	94	92	107	111	102	92	20	-17
Nevada	18	37	32	41	80	97	97	62	134	-36
New Hampshire	44	54	28	22	58	62	53	37	182	-39
New Jersey	493	608	464	353	494	545	540	385	54	-29
New Mexico	118	183	157	151	221	244	235	178	62	-27
New York	1,646	1,851	1,834	1,463	1,885	2,154	2,099	1,541	47	-28
North Carolina	428	605	474	390	597	630	631	505	61	-20
North Dakota	15	29	33	39	46	45	40	33	17	-26
Ohio	803	976	1,133	1,068	1,251	1,245	1,045	640	17	-49
Oklahoma	158	206	263	261	346	376	354	271	44	-28
Oregon	153	232	228	213	265	286	288	224	34	-22
Pennsylvania	843	1,071	1,032	916	1,137	1,208	1,124	835	32	-31
Puerto Rico	1,472	1,805	1,480	1,460	1,480	1,410	1,330	1,139	-3	-19
Rhode Island	79	88	69	57	87	94	91	76	65	-19
South Carolina	280	443	373	272	369	385	358	309	42	-20
South Dakota	26	46	48	50	55	53	49	44	6	-17
Tennessee	392	677	518	500	702	735	638	511	47	-30
Texas	823	1,226	1,263	1,634	2,454	2,726	2,372	1,401	67	-49
Utah	36	65	75	95	123	128	110	88	34	-31
Vermont	46	48	44	34	54	65	56	44	90	-31
Virgin Islands	25	34	32	16	16	20	31	17	23	-15
Virginia	240	432	360	333	495	547	538	362	65	-34
Washington	212	271	281	321	431	468	478	307	46	-34
West Virginia	199	252	278	259	310	321	300	247	24	-23
Wisconsin	175	269	363	291	334	330	283	182	13	-45
Wyoming	9	15	27	27	33	34	33	23	25	-31
United States	17,014	22,430	21,379	20,266	26,886	28,879	26,872	19,322	42	-33

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, unpublished data from the National Data Bank.

**Table FSP 6. Food Stamp Reciprocity Rates by State, Selected Fiscal Years
1977 – 1999**

[In percent]

	1977	1981	1985	1989	1992	1994	1996	1999	Percent Change	
									1989-94	1994-99
Alabama	8.4	15.4	14.8	10.8	13.3	12.9	11.9	9.3	19	-28
Alaska	2.7	7.7	4.1	4.8	6.4	7.6	7.6	6.7	60	-13
Arizona	5.8	7.5	6.5	7.3	11.8	12.3	9.6	5.4	69	-56
Arkansas	9.7	13.3	10.9	9.7	11.6	11.5	10.9	9.9	19	-14
California	6.0	6.6	6.1	6.1	8.3	10.1	9.9	6.1	66	-39
Colorado	5.5	5.9	5.3	6.5	7.5	7.3	6.4	4.3	14	-42
Connecticut	5.8	5.6	4.5	3.5	6.2	6.8	6.8	5.4	97	-20
Delaware	4.5	9.3	6.5	4.5	7.3	8.4	8.0	5.1	85	-39
Dist. of Columbia	14.5	15.9	11.4	9.4	14.1	16.0	17.2	16.2	71	1
Florida	8.2	9.4	5.5	5.3	10.4	10.6	9.5	6.2	100	-42
Georgia	8.8	11.7	9.5	7.6	11.2	11.8	10.8	7.9	56	-33
Hawaii	11.8	10.6	9.5	7.1	8.2	9.8	11.0	10.6	37	8
Idaho	3.8	6.7	5.9	6.1	6.7	7.2	6.7	4.6	17	-36
Illinois	8.1	8.6	9.7	8.7	10.0	10.1	9.3	6.8	16	-33
Indiana	3.6	7.4	7.4	5.2	7.9	9.0	6.7	5.0	75	-44
Iowa	3.7	5.6	7.2	6.1	6.9	6.9	6.2	4.5	14	-35
Kansas	2.7	4.5	4.9	5.2	6.9	7.5	6.6	4.3	44	-42
Kentucky	11.0	14.2	15.2	12.1	14.1	13.7	12.3	10.0	13	-27
Louisiana	10.6	13.4	14.6	17.0	18.2	17.6	15.4	11.8	3	-33
Maine	9.2	12.4	9.8	6.9	10.7	11.0	10.6	8.7	59	-21
Maryland	6.1	8.1	6.5	5.3	7.0	7.8	7.4	5.1	49	-35
Massachusetts	10.1	7.6	5.7	5.2	7.2	7.3	6.1	4.2	40	-42
Michigan	6.9	10.2	10.8	9.4	10.5	10.8	9.6	6.9	14	-36
Minnesota	4.0	4.9	5.5	5.7	6.9	7.0	6.3	4.4	23	-37
Mississippi	13.5	20.3	19.1	19.1	20.5	19.2	16.9	10.4	0	-46
Missouri	4.5	7.7	7.2	7.9	10.6	11.2	10.3	7.5	42	-34
Montana	3.6	5.9	7.1	7.0	8.1	8.3	8.1	6.9	20	-17
Nebraska	2.6	4.7	5.9	5.9	6.7	6.8	6.2	5.5	17	-19
Nevada	2.7	4.4	3.4	3.6	6.0	6.6	6.0	3.4	83	-49
New Hampshire	5.1	5.8	2.8	2.0	5.2	5.4	4.6	3.1	174	-43
New Jersey	6.7	8.2	6.1	4.6	6.3	6.9	6.8	4.7	51	-31
New Mexico	9.7	13.7	10.9	10.0	14.0	14.7	13.8	10.3	47	-30
New York	9.2	10.5	10.3	8.1	10.4	11.9	11.6	8.5	46	-29
North Carolina	7.5	10.2	7.6	5.9	8.7	8.9	8.6	6.6	50	-26
North Dakota	2.4	4.4	4.9	6.0	7.2	7.1	6.2	5.3	19	-26
Ohio	7.5	9.1	10.6	9.9	11.4	11.2	9.4	5.7	14	-49
Oklahoma	5.5	6.7	8.0	8.3	10.8	11.6	10.7	8.1	40	-30
Oregon	6.3	8.7	8.5	7.6	8.9	9.3	9.0	6.8	21	-27
Pennsylvania	7.1	9.0	8.8	7.7	9.5	10.0	9.3	7.0	30	-31
Rhode Island	8.3	9.3	7.2	5.7	8.7	9.4	9.2	7.7	66	-18
South Carolina	9.4	13.9	11.3	7.9	10.3	10.5	9.6	7.9	34	-24
South Dakota	3.8	6.6	6.9	7.2	7.6	7.3	6.6	6.0	2	-18
Tennessee	8.9	14.6	11.0	10.3	14.0	14.2	12.0	9.3	38	-35
Texas	6.2	8.3	7.8	9.7	13.9	14.8	12.5	7.0	53	-53
Utah	2.7	4.3	4.6	5.6	6.8	6.6	5.4	4.1	19	-37
Vermont	9.4	9.4	8.2	6.1	9.4	11.1	9.6	7.5	83	-33
Virginia	4.6	7.9	6.3	5.4	7.8	8.4	8.1	5.3	54	-37
Washington	5.6	6.4	6.4	6.8	8.4	8.8	8.6	5.3	30	-39
West Virginia	10.4	12.9	14.6	14.3	17.1	17.7	16.5	13.7	23	-23
Wisconsin	3.8	5.7	7.6	6.0	6.7	6.5	5.5	3.5	8	-46
Wyoming	2.1	3.0	5.4	6.0	7.2	7.2	6.9	4.9	20	-32
United States	7.1	9.0	8.3	7.6	9.9	10.5	9.6	6.7	39	-37

Note: Reciprocity rate refers to the average monthly number of food stamp recipients in each State during the particular fiscal year expressed as a percent of the total resident population as of July 1 of that year. The numerator is from Table A-18.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, unpublished data from the National Data Bank and U.S. Bureau of the Census, (Resident population by state available online at <http://www.census.gov/population/estimates/state/>).